Vol. V. Numb. 4.

# The EXAMINER.

From Monday December 7, to Friday December 11, 1713.

*Audiat, & ſi quem glacies Alpina coercet,*
*Et qui te Latiis jam non præcincte trophæis,*
*Tibri, natat, mixtumq; Pado qui remigat Aldum.* Claudian.

THE *Perſon* of the *Examiner*, whether *Single* or *Double*, *Real* or *Aſſumed*, hath been ſo often and ſo ſeverely threatned by thoſe, whoſe Reſentments are indeed but too well grounded, if we may be allow'd to meaſure them by the Provocations they have met with, that I have often ſeriouſly reflected, what would become of the poor Wretch, if for the Sins of the Publick, the honeſt indolent *Tories* ſhould again be trodden under Foot, and both His and the Nation's Enemies regain thoſe advantageous Heights, whence their Wantonneſs of Power and Security in Miſchief ſo luckily hurried Them. I am far from thinking, that this Gentleman would be altogether ſo Forlorn and Deſpicable an Object, as ſome of his good-natur'd Contemporaries may wiſh to ſee him. Greater Men than He have *Travell'd* upon theſe Occaſions, and permitted the Friends they left behind them, to give out in their Abſence, and according to the Tenor of ſeveral late elegant *Harangues*, both in *Proſe* and *Verſe*; how unworthy their own Country is of them, and what an Advantage Foreigners have over us, in their Knowledge and Diſtinction of true Merit. I know not how it is, but whenever the Publick Affairs go ſwimmingly, and the rolling Surface wears a perfect Calm, I take a ſecret Pleaſure in Writing ever now and then a *Paragraph* or Two in the *Diſmal* and *Miſerable* Strain, or drop a few dark Hints and Suſpicions that way, only to ſee how eaſily the *Whigs* are impoſed on, when there is a glorious Proſpect of Miſchief near; and with how much malicious Pleaſure they ſwallow a *Banter* of this kind, becauſe it gratifies their voracious Thirſt of Revenge upon the Government, and claws the Itch and Ferment in their Blood, which now beats high, and only waits for a *Moon*, before it break out in an *Epidemical Frenzy* and Diſorder. Speaking about a Week ago of a ſtrange Report, *That the* Miniſtry *intended to reſign*, I was very well pleas'd to find, how ſucceſsfully I had Bit the *Whigs*, who bought up that Paper in Bundles, and read it at moſt of their *Politick Boards*, with Rapture and Satisfaction: Notwithſtanding I ſpoke of this ſurprizing Incident in a very *abrupt* manner, and with all due Deference to the *Comely Virtue* of *Procraſtination*. From the Experience I have had of this Credulous Humour, I ſhall take occaſion to repeat that Stratagem more than once; and ſhall ever now and then make a *Feint*, or ring the *Alarm*, only to try the *Pulſes* of my Patients, and whether their evil Diſpoſitions be ſtill in force, or relax'd and abated. They ſay, Humouring a deſperate Malady is ſometimes the only and moſt effectual Remedy: If therefore they do not ſpeedily give me Proofs of their being upon the mending Hand, and that they are inclined to come into the *General Peace at home*, and to be made eaſy, I cannot ſay but I ſhall take other Meaſures, and in a Week or Two, perhaps, preſent them with a *Plot* or an *Invaſion*.

At preſent let it ſuffice, that I Indulge and Feed their Paſſion for Miſchief, by delivering my ſelf up a Sacrifice to their bittereſt Curſes and moſt inveterate Hatred: I am content to oblige them, by ſuppoſing the *Examiner* loaded with more Diſtreſſes than Execrations, and reduced to the Neceſſity of ſeeking Shelter in a Foreign Country. In that Caſe, his unhappy Circumſtances would certainly admit of more real Conſolation than theſe People will conſent to allow him. Whatever Cenſures ſome Foreigners have lain under, on account of their inhoſpitable Temper and Diſpoſition, to which we *Britons*, they ſay, have not a little contributed; and becauſe we refus'd to Naturalize others, can never expect to be Civilly uſed our ſelves; yet, if the Accounts of the *Whigs* may be depended on, there are many Reaſons why an *Engliſhman*, of Genius and Spirit, ſhould look for *Promotion rather from the* Eaſt, *or from the* Weſt, than under that Clime, to which the Star of his Birth confin'd him. That Induſtrious Party of Men, I juſt now ſpoke of, have found the Sweets of this Remark; and are therefore guilty of a very excuſable Piece of Gratitude, when they ſometimes diſplay their Rhetorick, rather in Praiſe of their Neighbours, than in Favour of their own Country. If any of their Adventurers happen to make a miſtake in the Comiſſion of a *Murder*, or to be found wanting in a few legal Forms and Decorums, relating to publick *Plunder*, we are preſently piqu'd at their Management, and fail not to enrich our Neighbours with a Sett of Men, ſufficiently qualified to revenge any remote Quarrel againſt us; and the next News we hear is, that they are made *Generals*, *Governors*, and Princes beyond Sea, who could hardly be quiet at home for our *Ordinary Courts* of *Juſtice*. Now if this be the Fate of Men ſo ill-recommended, and the Balance upon the Exportation of *Incendiaries* be ſo much to our Advantage, even at a Time when the Home Markets are over-ſtock'd, and there is ſuch a prodigious Growth of this kind amongſt us, what Treatment may not the *Examiner* expect, whoſe very Enemies have own'd him to be one of the moſt formidable *Boutefeus* of the Age, and who by being unhappily Embark'd in a good Cauſe, loſes all his private Merit in the common Stock, and forgoes many a hopeful Opportunity of ſerving ſome *Foreign Miniſtry*, that really wants him.

Were I condemn'd to Exile, or had only leave to go Abroad, I ſhould inſtantly gueſs to what Country the *Whigs* would ſend me. No *Paſſports* for *Germany* would probably be allow'd, for fear I ſhould drop any thing by the way, that might ſeduce an unwary People into the well-laid Ambuſcade of a *General Peace*; and I muſt be excluded *Holland*, upon many Accounts: It may be I ſhould teach the *Amſterdam Gazetteer* a little Truth, and fortify the *Dutch* in their unhappy Notions about a *Commerce to France*. My very good Friends, the *Whigs*, know what Intereſt I have all along been in, Who ſets me to work, and pays me for my Labours. *France* is the only Place, in their Opinion, fit to receive me; thither I muſt go, if they are to be my Conductors, and I am to eſteem it as no ſmall Favour, that I ſhall then have an Opportunity to demand the Arrears of my Penſion: And yet even here, with a few of thoſe Principles, which among them paſs for *Free Grace*, I would not queſtion making a Figure, and

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might perhaps live to requite all those Evils which this foolish Nation has brought upon my Country, by giving Rise to that ominous expensive Clamour of the *Dangers of Popery*. I have not perus'd so many *Pamphlets*, nor made such an intimate Acquaintance with the dark Designs and mysterious Principles of the *Whigs* for nothing: Bring me where there is real Danger, and good Grounds for Cavil, and I doubt not but I should assert my Liberty, and make as gallant a Stand for Law and Religion, as the most Romantick *Knight* these Sage *Enchanters* ever sent forth in quest of Adventures.

Suppose me then settled in *France*, I should be very glad to meet with those able *Polemicks* and Masters in Controversy, who could give a satisfactory Answer to such *Fears* and *Jealousies*, such *Doubts* and *Suspicions*, as I should think fit to promote, and disperse among the People. Every Body should be represented as *Blind* and *Stupid*, who did not listen to the *Discoveries* and *Informations* which I had charitably communicated to the World. I would declaim upon the *Dangers* of the *Catholick Church*, and the just *Apprehensions* all True *Frenchmen* were under, from the daily Incroachments of the *Northern Heresy*. In vain should the Adversary remind me of *His Majesty*'s known Zeal, and singular Piety: In vain should they upbraid me with the many *Publick Securities*, and the Learning, Orthodoxy, and Constancy of a numerous *Clergy*: I could reply very easily to this; that how good soever *His Majesty* might be, yet perhaps he was *misled* or *misinformed*, because he sees with *other Eyes*, and is at the Mercy of *Corrupt* and *Treacherous Counsellors*. Here it may be I might insinuate the great Power and Efficacy of *English Gold*. I would bid my Neighbours remember what sort of *Catholick* their Prince's *Father* was: I would tell them, it is not for Nothing that their old Enemies, on t'other side of the Water, are so *elevated* all on the sudden. I would hint at the vast Shoals and Swarms of *Hereticks*, that appear'd publickly in the Streets; and that it was well known, some of the *Lutherans* had the Impudence to offer a Proposal for a *further Reformation* in the *French Church*; as being but too well acquainted with our easie Disposition, whereby we were miserably sunk and fallen from the *Purity* of our *Forefathers*. I would then urge the Clamour that had been lately made about the *Edict* of *Nantz*; and that as to *Publick Settlements*, little Good could be expected from them, when *Arbitrary Power*, *De Facto*, was once set up and established. After this I would exclaim, that we were *Sold*, *Betray'd*, and *Sacrific'd* to *Hereticks*, and no body durst open a Mouth to complain, that was not presently stopt, except such bold Fellows as my self. I would stand amaz'd, to find that, which was common Sense in other Countries, expos'd in *France* as *Treasonable* and *Seditious*. But of all Mankind, the *Clergy* should not escape: I would let the World see what *Lazy*, *Idle*, *dumb Dogs* they were; who, if they could but *live in Luxury*, *keep their Preferments*, and it may be get a *Wife* or *Two* by the Bargain, would embrace Old *Luther* in both their Arms, and take the *Northern Yoak* upon their Necks, like *Tame*, *Passive Animals*, and *Beasts of Burthen*. Towards the Close of this *Topick*, it might be convenient to say something of *Protestant Flails*, and other *Heretical* Inventions; and then to Caution the People against those False Wretches, who offer'd to contradict me, and tell them another Story. That they must prepare *for the worst*, and not suffer themselves to be *Deluded* with outward Appearances. That as to the *Author* of these Sheets, he was certainly in earnest; as appeared by the *Venture of his Neck*; that he expected the Fate of other *Bold Assertors* of a *Good Cause*, but however should have the Satisfaction of having *done his Duty*, and given convincing Proofs of his *Loyalty* to his *King*, and *Love* of his *Country*.

If about *Forty* or *Fifty Pamphlets*, carefully compil'd in this Style, and upon these important Truths, were not sufficient to recommend my Abilities to the *Ministry*; or which might be equally beneficial, make an Interest for me in some *Party*, and entitle me to a good *Reversion* in the *next* happy *Turn* of Affairs, I would then go a little deeper, and in the variety of my Speculations, touch upon that Fundamental Point, the *Succession*. Here I would *Whine*, and *Groan*, and *Conjecture*, and *Prophesy*; and be as Uneasy as ever *Qualm-sick Politician* was. I would give out, with great Assurance, that notwithstanding the *present Settlement*, and pretended Validity of the most solemn *Oaths* and *Renunciations*, yet the *Hereditary Right* would certainly prevail in favour of *Philip*, and we should infallibly be made a *Province* to *Spain*. How could it then be expected, but that the *Successor* should gratefully remember his Benefactors, and at the publick Expence, make those due Returns the *Hereticks* might justly expect at his Hands, since they *Limited* the *Succession* according to the *New Establishment*, and in effect set the Crown upon his Head?

If by this time I were not thought worthy of a *Persion*, or considerable enough to have my Bones broke, and so be enroll'd among the *Martyrs*, I would then boldly bid Defiance to *Patience*, and launch out into all the Extreams of Warmth and Zeal, which my Cause requir'd. I would bravely proclaim the Weakness of the Government, in misplacing their Favours, and rejecting such *Ministers* as I had recommended to them. I would make the World acquainted with the true Character of Messieurs *Pont*——, *Cal*——, and *Vil*—— and convince Mankind of the Necessity and Reasonableness of taking part with me, in my Quarrel against them. The People should know the great Intimacy and Friendship between us and *Britain* and *Sweden*. I would tell them what an *unsafe dishonourable Peace* we had made, even whilst we were represented by our very Enemies, as having it in our Power to enslave all *Europe*. If after all, I should still be contemn'd and neglected, I would then cry out; That a *general Frenzy* was indeed gone forth into the Kingdom; and that I was justly excusable for *Raving* at my Superiors, since I caught the Distemper of them:, For as I was *Mad*, because I *mingled with them*, They would appear to be a *little Touch'd* by *letting me alone*.

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